H-1662.1		
11 100011		

## HOUSE BILL 1953

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Springer, Asay, Takko, Upthegrove, Haler, Fitzgibbon, Angel, Smith, and Sullivan

Read first time 02/14/11. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

- AN ACT Relating to county and city real estate excise taxes; amending RCW 82.46.010 and 82.46.035; reenacting and amending RCW 82.46.035; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration date.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

8

10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18

19

- 6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 82.46.010 and 1994 c 272 s 1 are each amended to read 7 as follows:
  - (1) The legislative authority of any county or city ((shall)) must identify in the adopted budget the capital projects funded in whole or in part from the proceeds of the tax authorized in this section, and ((shall)) must indicate that such tax is intended to be in addition to other funds that may be reasonably available for such capital projects.
  - (2)(a) The legislative authority of any county or any city may impose an excise tax on each sale of real property in the unincorporated areas of the county for the county tax and in the corporate limits of the city for the city tax at a rate not exceeding one-quarter of one percent of the selling price. The revenues from this tax ((shall)) must be used by any city or county with a population of five thousand or less and any city or county that does not plan

p. 1 HB 1953

under RCW 36.70A.040 for any capital purpose identified in a capital improvements plan and local capital improvements, including those listed in RCW 35.43.040.

- (b) After April 30, 1992, revenues generated from the tax imposed under this subsection (2) in counties over five thousand population and cities over five thousand population that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 (( $\frac{1}{1}$ )) must be used solely for financing capital projects specified in a capital facilities plan element of a comprehensive plan and housing relocation assistance under RCW 59.18.440 and 59.18.450. However, revenues (( $\frac{1}{1}$ )) (i) pledged by such counties and cities to debt retirement prior to April 30, 1992, may continue to be used for that purpose until the original debt for which the revenues were pledged is retired, or (( $\frac{1}{1}$ )) (ii) committed prior to April 30, 1992, by such counties or cities to a project may continue to be used for that purpose until the project is completed.
- (3) In lieu of imposing the tax authorized in RCW 82.14.030(2), the legislative authority of any county or any city may impose an additional excise tax on each sale of real property in the unincorporated areas of the county for the county tax and in the corporate limits of the city for the city tax at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent of the selling price.
- (4) Taxes imposed under this section ((shall)) <u>must</u> be collected from persons who are taxable by the state under chapter 82.45 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within the unincorporated areas of the county or within the corporate limits of the city, as the case may be.
- (5) Taxes imposed under this section ((shall)) <u>must</u> comply with all applicable rules, regulations, laws, and court decisions regarding real estate excise taxes as imposed by the state under chapter 82.45 RCW.
- (6) As used in this section, "city" means any city or town and "capital project" means those public works projects of a local government for planning, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, or improvement of streets; roads; highways; sidewalks; street and road lighting systems; traffic signals; bridges; domestic water systems; storm and sanitary sewer systems; parks; recreational facilities; law enforcement facilities; fire protection facilities; trails; libraries; administrative and/or judicial facilities; river and/or waterway flood control projects by

HB 1953 p. 2

those jurisdictions that, prior to June 11, 1992, have expended funds derived from the tax authorized by this section for such purposes; and, until December 31, 1995, housing projects for those jurisdictions that, prior to June 11, 1992, have expended or committed to expend funds derived from the tax authorized by this section or the tax authorized by RCW 82.46.035 for such purposes.

- (7) From the effective date of this section until December 31, 2016, a city or county may use the greater of one hundred thousand dollars or thirty-five percent of available funds under this section, but not to exceed one million dollars per year, for the operations and maintenance of existing capital projects as defined in subsection (6) of this section.
- **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.46.035 and 2009 c 211 s 1 are each amended to read 14 as follows:
  - (1) The legislative authority of any county or city ((shall)) must identify in the adopted budget the capital projects funded in whole or in part from the proceeds of the tax authorized in this section, and ((shall)) must indicate that such tax is intended to be in addition to other funds that may be reasonably available for such capital projects.
  - (2) The legislative authority of any county or any city that plans under RCW 36.70A.040(1) may impose an additional excise tax on each sale of real property in the unincorporated areas of the county for the county tax and in the corporate limits of the city for the city tax at a rate not exceeding one-quarter of one percent of the selling price. Any county choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040(2) and any city within such a county may only adopt an ordinance imposing the excise tax authorized by this section if the ordinance is first authorized by a proposition approved by a majority of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition at a general election held within the district or at a special election within the taxing district called by the district for the purpose of submitting such proposition to the voters.
  - (3) Revenues generated from the tax imposed under subsection (2) of this section ((shall)) <u>must</u> be used by such counties and cities solely for financing capital projects specified in a capital facilities plan element of a comprehensive plan. However, revenues (a) pledged by such counties and cities to debt retirement prior to March 1, 1992, may

p. 3 HB 1953

continue to be used for that purpose until the original debt for which the revenues were pledged is retired, or (b) committed prior to March 1, 1992, by such counties or cities to a project may continue to be used for that purpose until the project is completed.

- (4) Revenues generated by the tax imposed by this section ((shall)) must be deposited in a separate account.
- (5) As used in this section: (a) "City" means any city or town; (b) "capital project" means those public works projects of a local government for planning, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, or improvement of streets, roads, highways, sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, bridges, municipally owned heavy rail short line railroads, domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, and planning, construction, reconstruction, repair, rehabilitation, or improvement of parks; and (c) "short line railroads" means class III railroads as defined by the United States surface transportation board.
- (6) When the governor files a notice of noncompliance under RCW 36.70A.340 with the secretary of state and the appropriate county or city, the county or city's authority to impose the additional excise tax under this section ((shall be)) is temporarily rescinded until the governor files a subsequent notice rescinding the notice of noncompliance.
- (7) A city or county may use revenue generated under subsection (2) of this section for municipally owned heavy short line railroads only if the revenue was collected prior to December 31, 2008, and may not use more than twenty-five percent of the total revenue generated under subsection (2) of this section for municipally owned heavy short line railroads.
- (8) From the effective date of this section until December 31, 2016, a city or county may use the greater of one hundred thousand dollars or thirty-five percent of available funds under this section, but not to exceed one million dollars per year, for operations and maintenance of existing capital projects as defined in subsection (5) of this section, and counties may use available funds under this section for the payment of existing debt service incurred for capital projects as defined in RCW 82.46.010. If a county uses available funds for payment of existing debt service under RCW 82.46.010, the total

HB 1953 p. 4

- **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.46.035 and 1992 c 221 s 3 and 1991 sp.s. c 32 s 33 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- (1) The legislative authority of any county or city ((shall)) must identify in the adopted budget the capital projects funded in whole or in part from the proceeds of the tax authorized in this section, and ((shall)) must indicate that such tax is intended to be in addition to other funds that may be reasonably available for such capital projects.
- (2) The legislative authority of any county or any city that plans under RCW 36.70A.040(1) may impose an additional excise tax on each sale of real property in the unincorporated areas of the county for the county tax and in the corporate limits of the city for the city tax at a rate not exceeding one-quarter of one percent of the selling price. Any county choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040(2) and any city within such a county may only adopt an ordinance imposing the excise tax authorized by this section if the ordinance is first authorized by a proposition approved by a majority of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition at a general election held within the district or at a special election within the taxing district called by the district for the purpose of submitting such proposition to the voters.
- (3) Revenues generated from the tax imposed under subsection (2) of this section ((shall)) must be used by such counties and cities solely for financing capital projects specified in a capital facilities plan element of a comprehensive plan. However, revenues (a) pledged by such counties and cities to debt retirement prior to March 1, 1992, may continue to be used for that purpose until the original debt for which the revenues were pledged is retired, or (b) committed prior to March 1, 1992, by such counties or cities to a project may continue to be used for that purpose until the project is completed.
- (4) Revenues generated by the tax imposed by this section ((shall)) must be deposited in a separate account.
- (5) As used in this section, "city" means any city or town and "capital project" means those public works projects of a local government for planning, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, or improvement of streets, roads,

p. 5 HB 1953

highways, sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, bridges, domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, and planning, construction, reconstruction, repair, rehabilitation, or improvement of parks.

5

7

8

9

10

- (6) When the governor files a notice of noncompliance under RCW 36.70A.340 with the secretary of state and the appropriate county or city, the county or city's authority to impose the additional excise tax under this section ((shall be)) is temporarily rescinded until the governor files a subsequent notice rescinding the notice of noncompliance.
- 11 (7) From the effective date of this section until December 31, 12 2016, a city or county may use the greater of one hundred thousand 13 dollars or thirty-five percent of available funds under this section, but not to exceed one million dollars per year, for operations and 14 maintenance of existing capital projects as defined in subsection (5) 15 of this section, and counties may use available funds under this 16 section for the payment of existing debt service incurred for capital 17 projects as defined in RCW 82.46.010. If a county uses available funds 18 for payment of existing debt service under RCW 82.46.010, the total 19 20 amount used for payment of debt service and any amounts used for operations and maintenance is subject to the limits in this subsection. 21
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. Section 2 of this act expires June 30, 2012.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. Section 3 of this act takes effect June 30, 24 2012.

--- END ---

HB 1953 p. 6